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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Rimm et al

Serial No.: 10/062,308

Filed: February 1, 2002

For: *Systems and Methods for Automated Analysis of Cells and Tissues*

Examiner: Mahatan, Channing

Group Art Unit: 1631

Docket No.: YUA-001.01

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January 21, 2004

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By: Todd Williams

AFTER FINAL RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Mahatan and Primary Examiner Marschel for the interview on January 5, 2005. In particular, Applicants are grateful for the opportunity to discuss the distinctions between the pending claims (1-32 and 39-43) and the teachings of the 6,727,071 patent, which patent was relied on in the Office Action, mailed on June 16, 2004 as the basis for rejecting all pending claims under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(e) and 103.

As indicated in the Interview Summary, which was mailed on January 12, 2005, the Examiners suggested that Applicant's Representative submit an "After Final" response to provide a record of certain distinctions between the claimed subject matter and the teachings of the 6,727,071 patent as articulated by Applicant's Representative during the Interview. In addition, this After Final response includes those amendments submitted in the Response dated December 16, 2004, since the Office Communication

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the pending rejections. Applicants believe that the claims now pending are in condition for allowance, and notification of such is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any deficiencies to Deposit Account Number 06-1448, Reference YUA-001.01.

If, for any reason, a telephonic conference with the Applicants would be helpful in expediting prosecution of the instant application, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' Agent at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,
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January 21, 2004

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